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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/942,980	08/30/2001	Kenichi Kawarai	100794-11771(FUJG 18,948)	7689
26304	7590	02/26/2004	EXAMINER	
KATTEN MUCHIN ZAVIS ROSENMAN 575 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10022-2585			HUYNH, KIM T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2112	10
DATE MAILED: 02/26/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/942,980	KAWARAI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Kim T. Huynh	2112

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 August 2001.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 30 August 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 - Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 - Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy has been filed in parent Application No. JP 2001-000647, filed on Jan.5, 2001.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by anticipated by Reches (Pub No US 20020110086)

As per claim 1, Reches discloses a packet switch, comprising:

- N input buffer sections, provided for respective N input lines, for storing unicast packets and multicast packets input through corresponding input lines; (fig.1, 21,23,29), [0035-0036]
- a switch (fig.1, 50) section for outputting a unicast packet to any of M output lines to which the unicast packet is transmitted when the unicast packet is input from each of the N input buffer sections, and outputting the multicast packet to a plurality of M output lines to

which the multicast packet is to be transmitted when the multicast packet is input; [0040]

- and a scheduler (fig.1, 40) section for selecting the unicast packet or the multicast packet to be output from each of said N input buffers such that the input lines and the output lines cannot conflict each other for the unicast packet, and such that the input lines cannot conflict each other for the multicast packet. [0048-0049]

As per claim 2, Reches discloses wherein said switch section comprises:

- a first storage section for storing the unicast packet corresponding to each of the M output lines; [0017], [0055]
- and a second storage section for storing the multicast packet corresponding to each of the N input lines. [0055], fig.1

As per claim 3, Reches discloses wherein priority control is performed by dividing for each quality of service said input buffer sections and at least one of the first storage section and the second storage section of said switch section. [0055]

As per claim 4, discloses wherein said unicast packet or said multicast packet can be stopped to enter said switch section from said input buffer section by issuing a congestion notification from the switch section to at least one of the input buffer section and the scheduler section when said first storage section or second storage section enters a congestion state. [0055-0057]

As per claim 5, discloses wherein said scheduler section can

reserve a timing at which a packet other than the multicast packet cannot be transmitted through a plurality of destination output lines of the multicast packets, when the multicast packet is inputted from said input buffer section to said switch section. [0056-0058]

As per claim 6, discloses wherein: a plurality of switch sections are provided;

- one of said switch sections receives a part of a divided unicast packet or multicast packet input through the input line and divided into plural sections; [0066]
- and said plurality of switch sections concurrently transfer plural pieces of divided data corresponding a packet. [0066]

As per claim 7, discloses wherein:

- a plurality of switch sections are provided, one of said switch sections receives a unicast packet or a multicast packet input through the input line in plural unit times; [0060]
- and said plurality of switch sections concurrently transfer different packets. [0066]

As per claim 8, discloses wherein:

- a plural packets forms a frame; ([0004-0005], wherein length packets fragmented fixed length inherently implies a frame)
- each of the plural packets is assigned a first sequence number for identification of an order of the frame, and a second sequence

number for identification of an order of the packet in the frame;

[0004-0005] , [0052]

- and said packet switch further comprises a frame assembly section for rearranging the packets in the frame based on the second sequence numbers, and rearranging the frames based on the first sequence numbers in the output lines. [0004-0006]

As per claim 9, discloses wherein:

- a plural packets forms a frame; ([0004-0005], wherein length packets fragmented fixed length inherently implies a frame)
- each of the plural packets is assigned a first sequence number for identification of an order of the frame, and a second sequence number for identification of an order of the packet in the frame; [0052]
- and a corresponding switch section is instructed to stop transferring operations of packets when a number of frames being rearranged reaches a predetermined value when the packets are rearranged based on the first and second sequence numbers in the output lines. [0056]

As per claim 10, discloses wherein:

- an IP packet having a variable length is formed by said plurality of packets; [0052]

- and a packet belonging to the same flow is input to the same switch section based on a flow identification of the IP packet in the input lines. [0052]

Conclusion

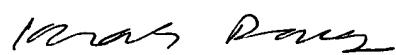
4. *Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim Huynh whose telephone number is (703)305-5384 or via e-mail addressed to [kim.huynh3@uspto.gov]. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM-6:30PM.*

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (703) 305-4815 or via e-mail addressed to [mark.rinehart@uspto.gov]. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)306-5631.

Kim Huynh

Feb. 18, 2004



Khanh Dang
Primary Examiner